

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PARAMA 00084 171659Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AGRE-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08
 INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 VO-05 SP-02 /042 W
 -----032045 171826Z /47

R 161750Z JAN 78
FM AMEMBASSY PARAMARIBO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3994
INFO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
AMEMBASSY CARACAS
AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN
AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PARAMARIBO 0084

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PEPR, NS, GY

SUBJECT: GOS CONCERN OVER DEVELOPMENTS IN GUYANA

1. JANUARY 16 LOCAL PRESS CARRIES REPORT, APPARENTLY
STEMMING FROM LEAK FROM JANUARY 13 CABINET MEETING, STATING
THAT MEETING'S AGENDA INCLUDED DISCUSSION OF THE RESULTS
OF "DETERIORATING" CONDITIONS IN GUYANA. ALLEGED CONCLUSION
OF MEETING WAS THAT GOS VIEWS WITH CONCERN DEVELOPMENTS IN
GUYANA, PARTICULARLY IN VIEW OF FLIGHT TO SURINAM BEING
THE "EASIEST WAY TO ESCAPE" CONDITIONS IN GUYANA. LENGTHY
SUGAR STRIKE AND DISMISSAL OF 40 PER CENT OF GUYANA'S CIVIL
SERVANTS WERE REPORTEDLY GIVEN AS CHIEF CAUSES OF GUYANA'S
DIFFICULTIES.

2. IN RELATED DEVELOPMENT, CHAIRMAN OF AIFLD AND CCL-
AFFILIATED UNION FEDERATION DE MOEDERBOND IS QUOTED AS
EXPRESSING CONCERN ABOUT POSSIBLE LARGE NUMBERS OF
GUYANESE SEEKING WORK IN SURINAM AT A LOWER WAGE THAN
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IS ACCEPTABLE TO SURINAM'S LABOR MOVEMENT.

3. COMMENT: DURING PAST YEAR, EMBASSY HAS OBSERVED,
PARTICULARLY IN REQUESTS FROM GUYANESE FOR VISAS TO
THE U.S., LARGER NUMBERS OF GUYANESE COMING TO SURINAM
THAN WE NOTICED PREVIOUSLY. IF PROBLEM HAS BECOME SERIOUS
ENOUGH TO ATTRACT GOS ATTENTION, THEN ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION

INTO SURINAM AND THE RESULTING PRESSURE ON THE LABOR
MARKET IS LIKELY TO BECOME ONE MORE DIFFICULT ISSUE TO
BE RESOLVED BEFORE SURINAM AND GUYANA COULD MOVE TOWARD
REGULARIZING THEIR LONE-STRAINED RELATIONS.
ZURHELLEN

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Case Number: n/a
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